

## BOOK NOTICES

LADD, DOUG. 1995. **Tallgrass Prairie Wildflowers.** (ISBN 1-56044-299-9, pbk). Falcon Press Publishing Company, P.O. Box 1718, Helena, MT 59624. \$19.95. 262 pp.

"This guide covers the more common and characteristic plants of tallgrass prairies from northeastern Oklahoma north into Canada and eastward through Ohio. Included ... are [about 320] photographs [by Frank Oberle] ... of 295 tallgrass prairie plants, including a few examples of very rare plants that epitomize the tallgrass prairie." The seven main sections of the book, which present the wildflowers arranged by flower color, follow the standard introductory material (e.g., description of area covered and plant morphology) and precede the glossary, a useful "Tallgrass Prairie Directory," "Selected Further Reading," and an index. Accompanying each photograph is text describing the plant, flowering time, and habitat/range. The photos (one or two per page) are, almost without exception, superb; in conjunction with the brief descriptions, they will make identification of the target plants an easy task. This book should be required equipment for anyone visiting the tallgrass prairie. Even elsewhere, though, it is a pleasure to read through.—*John W. Thieret.*

DUNMIRE, WILLIAM W. and GAIL D. TIERNEY. 1995. **Wild Plants of the Pueblo Province. Exploring Ancient and Enduring Uses.** (ISBN 0-89013-272-0, pbk.). Museum of New Mexico Press, P.O. Box 2087, Santa Fe, NM 87504. \$19.95. 290 pp.

"A region of enormous diversity," "The ancestral Puebloans," "Contact, Colonization, and Catastrophe," "Modern descendants," "Indicator plants as living artifacts," "Plants and plantcraft," "Ethnobotany in New Mexico," "Recent modifications in the landscape," and "Other places to visit," these chapter titles indicate the wide and full coverage of this fine production, an exemplary historico-ethnobotanical volume. Abundantly illustrated, the work is well produced and will indexed. Coverage of relevant literature is good (146 references in the "Bibliography") "Plants and plantcraft," the book's longest section (141 pages), considers 55 of the most important species, each with its own text, color photo, and line drawing. Data on these species plus about 240 others are conveniently summarized in a 12-page table. The authors and the Museum of New Mexico Press have done a superb job.—*John W. Thieret.*

RICHARDSON, ALFRED. 1995. **Plants of the Rio Grande Delta.** (ISBN 0-292-77070-7, pbk). University of Texas Press, P.O. Box 7819, Austin, TX 78713-7819. Price not indicated. 332 pp.

This volume "expands and updates" Dr. Richardson's *Plants of Southermost Texas* (1990), an identification guide to the flora (excluding the grasses) of Cameron, Hidalgo, and Willacy counties (see notice in *Sida* 15:170. 1992). Most of the text is a repeat of that in the earlier work, but new and welcome indeed is the array of 94 beautifully reproduced color plates bound together at the end of the book. They greatly increase the book's value for its stated purpose.—*John W. Thieret.*